

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the first sheet of drawings with the attached replacement sheet.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 12, 19-25, 34, 44, 54-58, 60, 62 and 66 are pending in the application. Claims 42-43 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-11, 13-18, 26-33, 35-41, 45-53, 59, 61 and 63-65 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

At page 2 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 12, 19-25, 34, 44, 54-56 under 35 USC 112(2) as indefinite, based on the independent claims previously claiming two systems, not connected.

The independent claims are carefully amended to resolve this rejection (as well as define over the Fussganger reference as helpfully discussed by the Examiner at section 13, page 9 of the Action. Specifically, independent claim 12 is amended to include the limitations of original claims 42-43, thereby coupling the previous two systems into one via the plurality of users. Specifically, independent claim 54 is amended to couple its previous two systems into one via a single central premises equipment.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

At page 2 of the Action, the Examiner objects to the drawings. A formal corrected replacement drawing sheet (Fig. 1) is herewith attached and entered by amendment above.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 19-25, 34, 44, 54, 57-58 and 66 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as obvious in view of Fussganger et al (4957339).

Fussganer (figures 4 & 5 cited by the Examiner) teaches a single optical waveguide 1 as shown by all the common references numeral identified elements along the distal and proximal ends. In contrast, the single systems recited in claims 12 and 54 as amended require that the other claimed functions be distributed between these two optical fibers. Referring to paragraph

[0038] of this application as originally filed, this claimed distribution provides significant advantages such as counter-propagation of the analog video and digital data, including maximizing the nonlinear optical walk-off factor and minimizing the net magnitude of the nonlinear optical cross-talk.

In addition, claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 42-43. Please note that as these references were applied in the Action to the limitations of claims 42-43, the Giles, Kim, Schemmann and/or Shutterly references alone or combination do not disclose or suggest the claimed two fiber, counter-propagating distribution of functionality with its attendant advantages.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 19-25, 34 and 44 are rejection as obvious under 35 USC 103 in view of Giles in view of Fussganger.

The Giles and Fussganger references either alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest the presently claimed two fiber, counter-propagating distribution of functionality with its attendant advantages.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 42 was rejected as obvious under 35 USC 103 in view of Giles in view of Fussganger in view of Kim in view of Schemmann.

The limitations of claim 42 are now included in claim 12. Claim 42 is canceled without prejudice.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 43 was rejected as obvious in view of Giles in view of Fussganger in view of Kim in view of Shutterly.

The limitations of claim 43 are now included in claim 12. Claim 43 is canceled without prejudice.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 54, 57 and 58 were rejected as obvious in view of Giles in view of Fussganger in view of Shutterly in view of Cubukciyan.

As explained above, Fussganger (figures 4 & 5 cited by the Examiner) teaches a single optical waveguide 1 as shown by all the common references numeral identified elements along the distal and proximal ends. In contrast, the single systems recited in amended independent claims 12 and 54 as amended require that the other claimed functions be distributed between these two optical fibers. The Shutterly and/or Cubukciyan references do not obviate this deficiency of the Fussganger reference. Again, referring to paragraph [0038] of this application as originally filed, this claimed distribution provides significant advantages such as counter-propagation of the analog video and digital data, including maximizing the nonlinear optical walk-off factor and minimizing the net magnitude of the non linear optical cross-talk.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 55-56, 60, 62 and 66 are rejected as obvious in view of Giles in view of Fussganger in view of Shutterly in view Cubukciyan in view of Atlas.

The Atlas reference does not obviate the deficiencies of the above discussed Giles, Fussganger, Shutterly and Cubukciyan references.

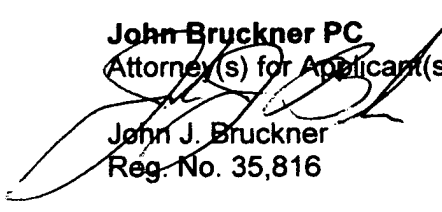
Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include acquiescence to statements in the Office Action. In view of the above, all the claims are considered patentable and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned (at direct line 281-903-7053 for prompt action in the event any issues remain that prevent the allowance of any pending claims.

The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3204 of John Bruckner PC.

Respectfully submitted,

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